

Brownfields Supplemental Assistance *Fayetteville, NC*

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace), to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the City of Fayetteville to receive supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot. Downtown Fayetteville has been in decline since the 1970s, when businesses, manufacturers, and other facilities closed or relocated to outlying areas. More than half of the downtown retail space is presently unoccupied. By 1996, 52 percent of the residents of downtown Fayetteville had a standard of living below the poverty level. The unemployment rate is 16 percent.

Cumberland County, which includes Fayetteville, is a federally designated Urban Distressed Community. Fayetteville's urban redevelopment strategy is being led by a comprehensive vision that identifies the need for public/private partnerships with significant emphasis on brownfields. The Pilot will target three sites, one site from the original Assessment Pilot's inventory—a former Manufacturing Gas Plant (MGP)—for cleanup planning and two new sites for environmental assessment activities. The former MGP site is directly adjacent to Cross Creek, a historical and natural drainage course that runs through the city.

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Fayetteville, North Carolina

Date of Award: April 2001

Amount: \$150,000

Profile: The Pilot will continue to encourage the revitalization of downtown Fayetteville by targeting three sites to facilitate cleanup and redevelopment.

Contacts:

City of Fayetteville
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Regional Brownfields Team
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Visit the EPA Region 4 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region4/wastepps/brownfpgs/bf.htm>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The Pilot will use EPA's supplemental assistance grant to continue the activities of the Assessment Pilot. The Pilot plans to determine appropriate cleanup alternatives, prepare a cleanup action plan, and prepare a cleanup design plan for the former MGP site. In cooperation with the city-owned utility, the Public Works Commission, the Pilot will also use the supplemental funding to conduct assessments at two newly targeted former industrial sites, one located in downtown Fayetteville and the other located at one of the city's major travel gateways. A major component of the city's redevelopment objective is to improve the water quality and aesthetics of, as well as access to, Cross Creek.

The Pilot plans to:

- Conduct environmental assessments on the two newly targeted sites;
- Conduct community outreach for the targeted sites;
- Conduct a feasibility study of potential cleanup alternatives for the former MGP site; and
- Prepare a cleanup action and design plan for implementing the selected cleanup alternative for the former MGP site.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.